

The Brethren Evangelist, THE BRETHREN CHURCH PAPER, Ashland, Ohio.

THE FIELD.

Dec. 8.—On the evening of November 20th we commenced a meeting at the Buffalo school house, three miles east of La Paz, Ind., and closed on Dec 6th, the present result two additions by baptism and two applicants, who will be baptized in the near future. Though Sunday, the sixth, was very stormy, one old sister, sixty-eight years old, was buried in baptism in the likeness of our dear redeemer's death. Others are near the kingdom. We closed with good feeling on the part of nearly every one that attended our meeting. One young lady came one night to unite with the church, prepared to be baptized the same hour of the night, but her father would not let her for fear she would not prove faithful.

There is a great work to be done. I want the prayers of the brethren and sisters that I may be instrumental in the hands of God, and may the Lord be praised.

Z. C. ABBOT.

La Paz, Ind.

TIOSA, IND., Dec. 4.—On the morning of the 28th of Oct. I boarded the train at Trotwood, Ohio, enroute for Eaton, Delaware County, Ind. here I had been requested by Bro. W. W. Summers to go and preach for the Brethren. I sent an appointment before me that I would commence the meeting on the evening of the 28th but when I got to Eaton I found the brethren had not got the card and there was no appointment made for me.

Next day was Sunday and as I had no appointment I attended the dedication of a new church by William Deter for the German Baptists. At the close of the service I kindly requested the German Baptist ministers to announce my appointment for that evening in a school house some two miles off, but they would not do it, so after the people were dismissed and out of the house I made the announcement myself. I preached in the Maple Grove school house that evening and every evening until Wednesday evening, four sermons in all. I had good congregations and good attention. The immediate result was five additions; four from the world, all sisters and one brother from the G. B. We also organized them into a church, to be hereafter known as the Brethren church at Eaton, Ind. This church now has a membership of 27 in number, and a fair prospect of continuous growth. George Rench a very promising young brother was elected to the Deaconship. He is a school teacher and has a good "reputation from them who are without" and even from the G. B. I think Bro. Bench will under the grace of God become a blessing to that congregation. Sister Ada Witameger was chosen secretary, and with her untiring devotion and zeal for the cause, I think she is the right person in the right place. The church also made choice of an elder to take the oversight, who will do what he can to supply her with preaching, and otherwise promote her interest and growth. So far as the aid of the

ministry has been instrumental in bringing about this work of the Brethren in Delaware Co., Ind., it should be credited to Bro. W. W. Summers, who is beloved by the church and the people generally about Eaton, and he can perhaps do more good there than any other man, and I hope he will visit them as often as he can.

I should have stayed longer, but my time was limited. A good work can be done there now, and I hope it will be done by our dear brother Jno. Nicholson from Waterloo, Iowa, who will continue the meeting from next Saturday evening I hope as long as it will do good.

I hope the brethren in their travels will call and preach for this little church, as they have no resident minister they will appreciate your visits. Address the secretary sister Ada Witameger, Eaton, Delaware Co., Ind.

I am now at Tioso, where I preached last night and will preach again this evening, then I go to South Bend, where my meeting will commence next Sunday the 6th. From there you will probably hear from me again.

J. A. RIDENOUR.

MAURERTOWN, VA., Dec. 6.—On the 29th ultimo, we commenced a meeting at State Hill school house, about eight miles from this place, and continued each night until the 5th inst, when it closed with an addition of ten by baptism, and one by relation. This meeting, like many more, was closed to soon.

E. B. SHAVER.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—Here are \$2.10 for the Missionary Fund. One dollar by sister Katie Hershberger, and one from Bro. Jessie. They are full of zeal for the Master, and the Lord will bless them I know; for the Lord loveth a cheerful giver. Then here comes little Minnie Rupert, a grand-child of brother Hershberger's, only seven years old with her bright sparkling eyes. She looked me in the face and said, "Here are ten cents for the Missionary Fund." Oh how the Lord must love such little givers as little Minnie. I believe it will be the means of adding a star in little Minnie's crown to shine forth in the kingdom of God. I hope there will be many little Minnie's to imitate her, and earn a star for their crown.

LEWIS HANG.

Louisville, Ohio.

MARTINSBURG, PA.—We read No. 44 with much interest, it was replete with good things, and good news. "Who are J. and J?" asks brother Hildebrand; well brother H., I can't tell you. It cannot be James and Jambres, who withstood Moses, but there is no doubt a mistake in concealing the name. It destroys largely the prestige of any article. Under the caption of "Association, or Convention" we have a good article over the signature of "D. R.", but who knows who "D. R." is? The source has much to do with the stream that flows from it, so let us give the name our mother's gave us. As to the suggestion of "J. and J." in establishing an evangelistic work, we see one feature, that to us, does not seem practical, and that is, the membership composing the various churches, cannot vote intelligently for evangelists, be-

cause they do not know the preachers of Pennsylvania. The church under my pastorate know that there is a preacher in Pa., by the name of Spanogle but outside of this, with perhaps two or three exceptions, they do not know the ministers, and not knowing them how can they intelligently vote for them? My personal experience with the ministers of Pa., does not exceed perhaps, a baker's dozen, and as a rule when I learned to know them, it was in their own churches, and I was generally elected preacher, and was thus deprived of hearing them, and learning of their respective ability. And hence my voting would be somewhat at random. Here, then, I see the difficulty that can only be overcome by convention. In interviewing some of my members this seemed to be the difficulty. If this can be overcome the suggestion is a grand one. On the 26th we begin our protracted effort near Duncansville. Expect Bro. Hilderbrand's assistance. Our church is moving along nicely, and instead of our numbers diminishing, they are still increasing.

W. L. SPANOGLE.
Martinsburg, Pa., 12, 1885.

From Brush Valley.

ADRAIN, PA., Nov. 27.—Our meeting which we referred to has come to a close. Brother J. W. Smous met with us on the 7th of this month and continued to the 25th of the same. We had a glorious meeting; good attention and good attendance, taking into consideration the throng time and bad roads during the meeting. We are happy to tell you that our praise did not turn unto us void. God remembered us in the saving of eight souls, who were baptized according to the gospel.

We had our communion services on the evening of the 23rd. It was one of the most orderly meetings we ever enjoyed in this place. We are happy to say that since we are out of bondage our meetings have become more interesting and progressive, and instead of disorderly they are quiet and orderly. Thank God for such a deliverance. We hope that brother Smous will return again and give us at least a few more of his warning and comforting words. May God bless him in his ministerial labor.

ROBERT B. BOWSER.

From Wilmington to South Bend.

On Friday, Nov. 27, I carried our household goods and books for South Bend, and myself and child for my mother's where we ate our Thanksgiving dinner on Saturday.

The following Thursday we started for South Bend, in which city we expect to make our future home. Arrived there safely on Saturday evening, and very much surprised Mr. E., for we came at an hour when he was not expecting us.

Orders were left at Wilmington P. O. for all mail coming there to us to be forwarded, which will be done unless the new Post Master be forgetful. All communications to us in the future should be addressed, J. C. Ewing, 424 South Franklin street, South Bend, Ind. Respectfully,
Mrs. J. C. EWING.

Dec. 11.

Send in your name for the Annual.

Why I Became More Liberal.

Some time ago in conversation with a couple of German Baptist brethren the fact was drawn out that my attitude toward other denominations was more liberal than it used to be, and the leading fault they found with me lay in that fact. I was asked why I had grown to be more liberal in this respect. The following contains the substance of my answer. I am no more honest than I used to be, but have enlarged and broadened my moral and Christian sympathy. My sympathies though always strong were like those of my church, too narrow.

I was tenacious in the observance of the ordinances, and my honest convictions were that they contained the essence of Christian duty. Other churches did not practice all of them, and of course I concluded they were not entitled to recognition in Christian fellowship. By more mature reflection and thoughtfulness of late years I have learned that, while the observance of the ordinances was very profitable to Christian life, character and enjoyment, there yet remained grander and more important duties in order to fully meet, exemplify, and comprehend the grand significance of Christ's atonement; and, as I remarked to those brethren, "I guess if we were to make a swap with other denominations we would have to be the boot-giving party," ~~for~~ outside of keeping the ordinances what have we done in the development of the broad and humane principles of Christianity. The few years work of D. L. Moody has proven a greater blessing to sin-stricken humanity than all the Dunkard church ever did. By his labors the temperance cause was greatly advanced. Drunkards were influenced to become sober men. Saloons were turned to prayer houses, the vicious and prostituted were reformed; and through the length and breadth of our own land and in other lands, men were pulled by the refining graces of Christian sympathy, philanthropy, and intelligence out of the low, slimy, and morally, socially and spiritually filthy ditches of loathsome sin. Christ died for the northern Esquimaux and for the southern Hindoo as well as for the more intelligent and civilized nations of earth, and while we were washing feet and in our little home circles attended in an almost unseen manner, the ordinances in general, other denominations brought to bear every advantage of our broad land and high civilization to the moral, social, and spiritual elevation of poor, miserable, degraded, and sinful humanity, in our own and other lands. Their Missionaries at the peril of home endearments and even at the peril of their lives have penetrated the darkest recesses of earth, and in hundreds of languages presented to men the saving gospel of the Son of God.

Instead of continuing in the sectarian exclusiveness of the past, the whole of the so-called Dunkard church should bow down in sackcloth and ashes and confess her shortcomings in the more important works of Christian love for fallen and sin-degraded humanity, and, instead of the indiscriminate havoc made upon

the laymembership for ministerial material, should only place well qualified men at the helm, instead of permitting her ministers who make the effort at faithfulness, to fall into pauperism and consequent disgrace. She should make every effort possible to utilize the national faculties, secured her by the advanced steps of other Christian bodies, to elevate her ministerial standard, thus shaking hands over the sectarian exclusiveness, and join hands with equal advantage in attaining to a higher spiritual life, and in deeper consecration to the crown of Christ.

The special part of Christ's mission to earth was to save sinners, even in the sense of present salvation. Such is the special mission of His church. When our eyes are once fully opened to that fact and our sympathies fully drawn out toward the perishing, it will become as natural for us to say with David, that our delight is in the service of the Lord as it is for water to flow down hill, and instead of a disposition to evade duty we will in gladness of heart seek after it. We will quit preaching that the cross lies in the observance of external ordinances, but rather in the destruction of our proud, selfish, untamed, and unsympathetic natures, and in full consecration of all we have and are to the service of God. Brethren, do not we with all our progressiveness, need a little more statesmanship and a little more enlargement of our fund of Christian philanthropy? We have greater and grander responsibilities than our Father had. We enjoy better developed faculties in various respects. Are we first seeking the kingdom of God and his righteousness?

Our doctrine is all right, but how about our methods? Are we even yet boastful because we conceive our superiority in point of doctrine? If so, let us take heed as to the use we make of it. In glaring letters of unvarnished truth the handwriting of God has appeared upon the wall and is staring with the inevitable earnestness of every attribute of God right in the face of every intelligent Dunkard brother.

"Thou art weighed in the balance and found wanting." Our self-accumulated rubbish of human tradition and superstition is on fire. The zephyrs of reason, intelligence, Christians honor and stern Bible facts are fanning the flames. Let us be careful that we like Lot's wife, be not consumed. "Behold" said the spirit to a church of old "I have set before thee an open door, which no man can shut." The same door of privilege to do much good is open to us, and we are responsible.

W. J. H. BAUMAN.

DEAR EVANGELIST.—Please find enclosed two dollars to add to the Missionary fund, started by a Sister. I am truly glad that such a fund has been started, and I pray God's blessing upon it.

May every member in our beloved Brotherhood avail himself of this grand opportunity, of doing good, is the prayer of Your Sister in Christ.

Annie Forney.

Berlin, Pa., Dec. 11, 85.

The M. and E. Fund.

Previously reported	\$18.50
Katie Hershberger	1.00
Jessie Hershberger	1.00
Minnie Rupert	.10
Annie Forney	2.00
Henry P. Stauffer	1.00
Total	23.60